Relationships at the Center

Blue Ribbon Schools & Beyond

Friday, November 5, 2021

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MENTOR

Welcome!

Your Presenters

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AGENDA

I. Who is MENTOR?

II. What are Relationship-centered Schools?

III. Small group work: Sharing relationship-rich practices, programs or policies

IV. Video: The Power of Relationships in Schools

V. What is a Mentoring Mindset?

VI. Activity: Webs of Support

VII. Tools

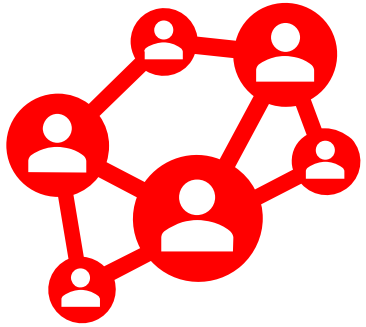
VIII. Examples of Relationship-centered Schools work

IX. Wrap Up

Icebreaker

Take a moment to meet your colleagues

With each person you speak to, find something you both have in common outside of work



Who We Are

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MENTOR: Vision & Mission

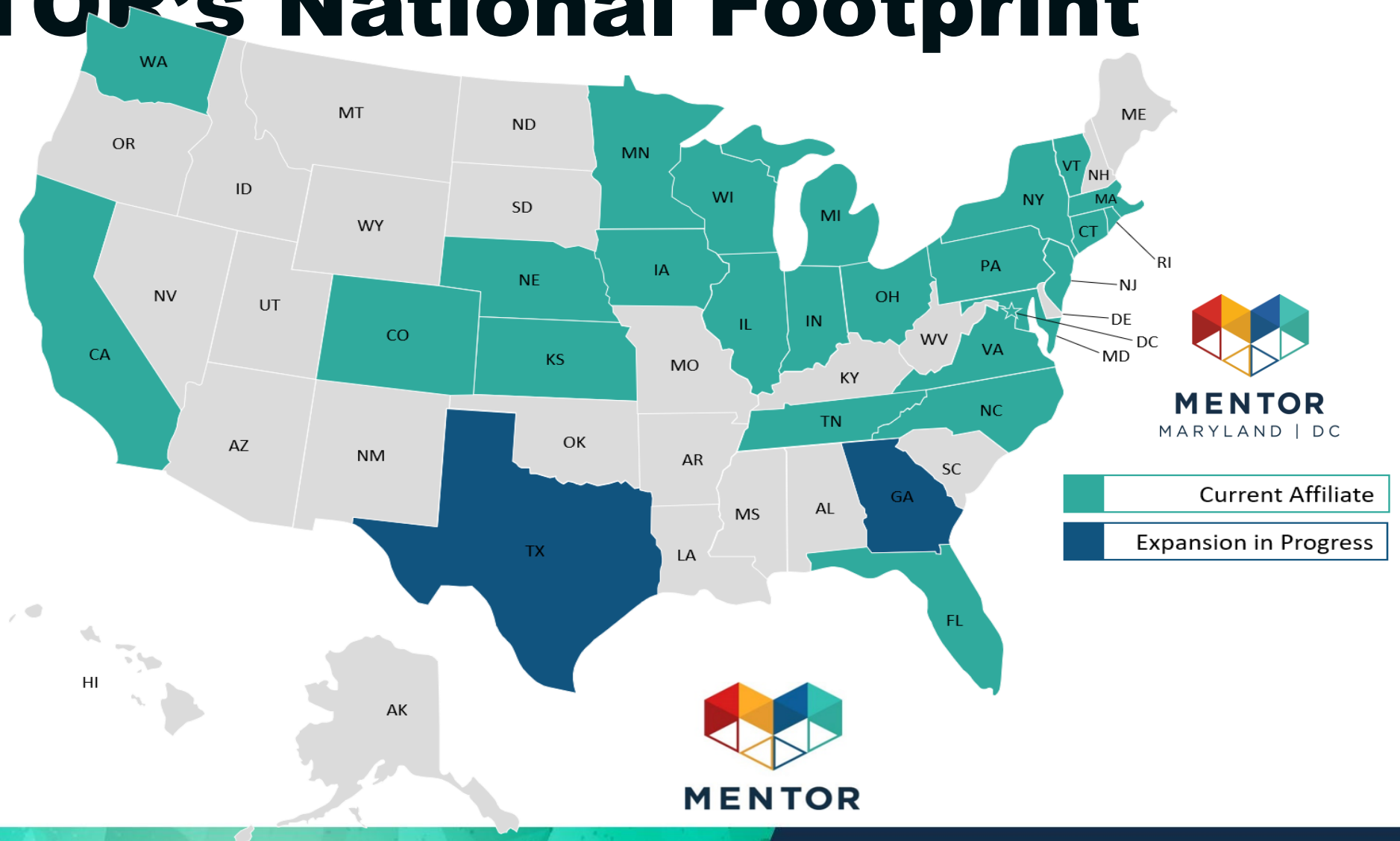
Vision

Every young person has the supportive relationships they need to grow and develop into thriving, productive and engaged adults.

Mission

MENTOR's mission is to fuel the quality and quantity of mentoring relationships for America's young people and to close the mentoring gap for the one in three young people growing up without this critical support.

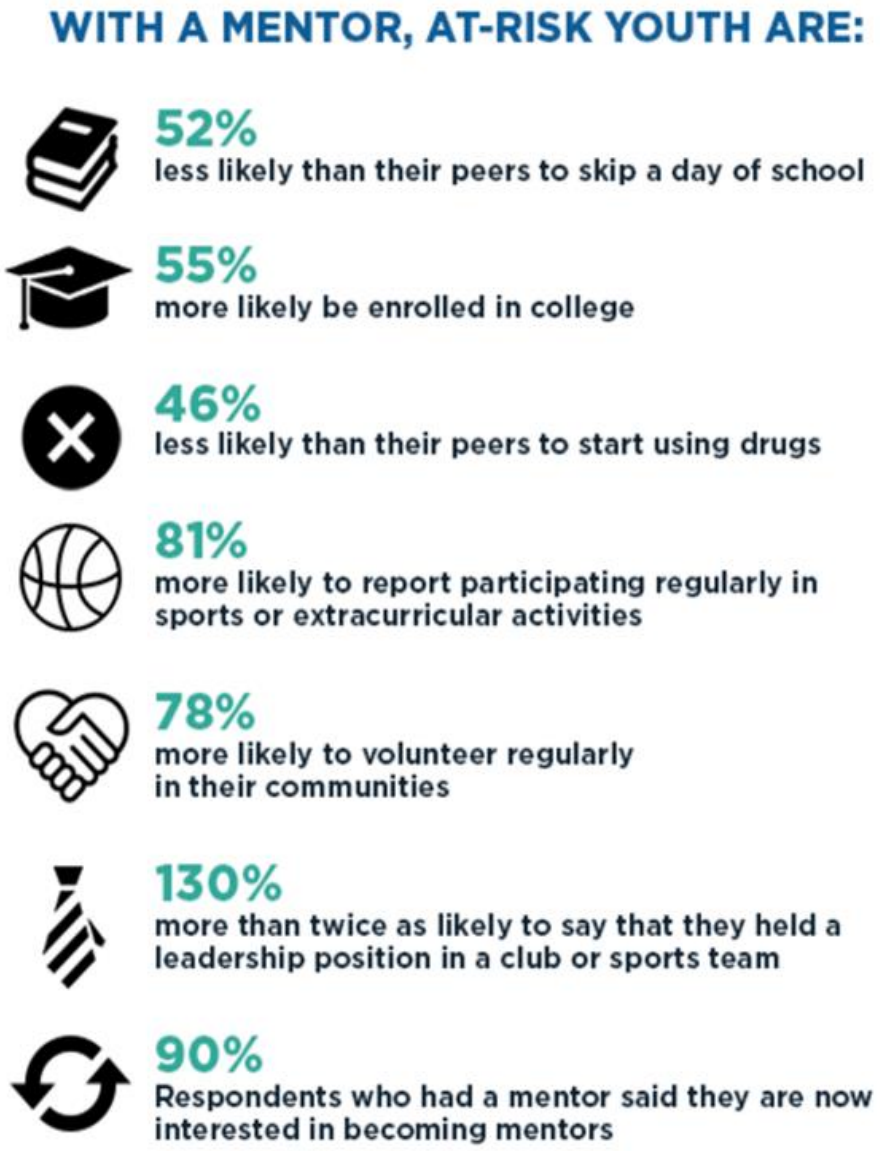
MENTOR's National Footprint



THE GREATEST NEED

MENTOR is focused on connecting mentors to the **9 million young people** who face multiple risk factors, leaving them prone to falling off track.

How does mentoring help?



The Mentoring Effect

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The Mentoring Gap

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School Based Mentoring: Where We've Been

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History of School Based Mentoring

Our Former Approach

- Individual schools
- Deficit focused
- Programs created in silos
- Very narrow population served
- Heavily reliant on outside programmatic resources

School Based Mentoring

- Can be delivered in one-to-one, group or team formats
- Can pair students with adult mentors or engage older students as “near peer” mentors
- Often aim to facilitate academic gains or improvements in school connectedness or attendance, though many also emphasize non-academic goals
- Can be run by school personnel or through a partnership with a community-based service provider in collaboration with school leadership.

OJJDP National Mentoring Resource Center, 2017

Success Mentors

- In November 2015, the Obama Administration announced two groundbreaking campaigns to address chronic absenteeism in high-need public schools: the My Brother's Keeper (MBK) Success Mentors Every Student, Every Day campaign and a multi-million dollar Ad Council campaign to engage families and school communities on solving this nationwide issue.

National Student Attendance, Engagement, and Success Center

- The MBK Every Student, Every Day campaign aims to connect over one million students with dedicated Success Mentors in this country's first-ever effort to use an evidence-based and data driven mentor model and student support system to tackle chronic absenteeism. The campaign calls on all schools to take strategic actions to reduce the rates of chronic absenteeism, based on insights and evidence from ten school districts about what works

Model Overview

Components

The National Success Mentors initiative is a comprehensive, evidence-based approach to providing high-need students with additional supports to enable them to succeed academically and graduate from high school prepared for post-secondary success. The initiative provides:

- Identified students (those who are chronically absent or are at risk for being chronically absent) with consistent and continuous school-based mentoring aimed at uncovering and solving the underlying causes of their absenteeism;
- Case managed referrals for identified students to professional supports as needed; and
- Examples of school-wide efforts and early warning systems aimed at keeping all students on track to post-secondary success.

What does the research say?

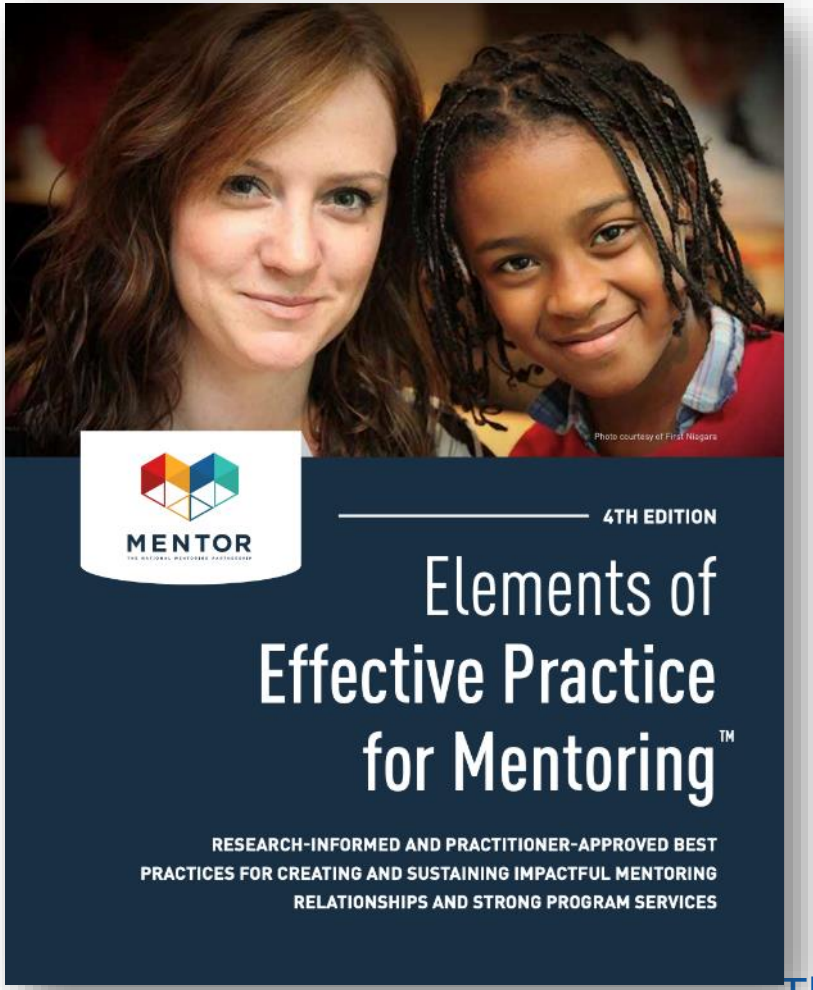
- Regardless of the structure, staffing, and goals of the program, mentoring programs in schools have shown to be a cost-efficient way of increasing the positive relationships students have in their lives, while also having the potential to boost factors that can lead to educational success, such as:
  - connectedness to the school environment and peers
  - improved relationships with teachers and staff
  - improved feelings of academic competence
  - greater access and use of other supports, such as tutoring, credit tracking, counseling, and postsecondary planning.

OJJDP National Mentoring Resource Center, 2017

Elements of Effective Practice for Mentoring

What works in mentoring program design?

- Recruitment
- Screening
- Training
- Matching and Initiating
- Monitoring and Support
- Closure



The EEPM

Mentor Resources & Guides

Visit www.mentoring.org for these resources and more

Overview of Relationship Centered Schools

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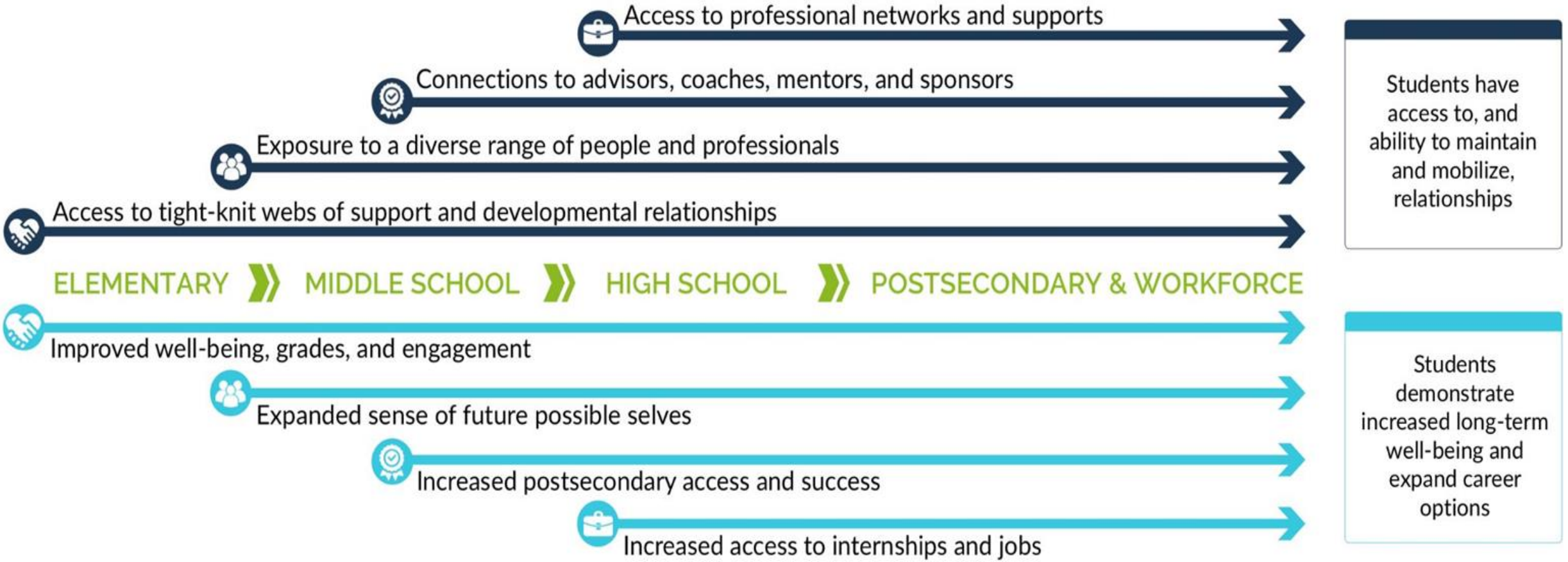
Edutopia: Power of Relationships in Schools



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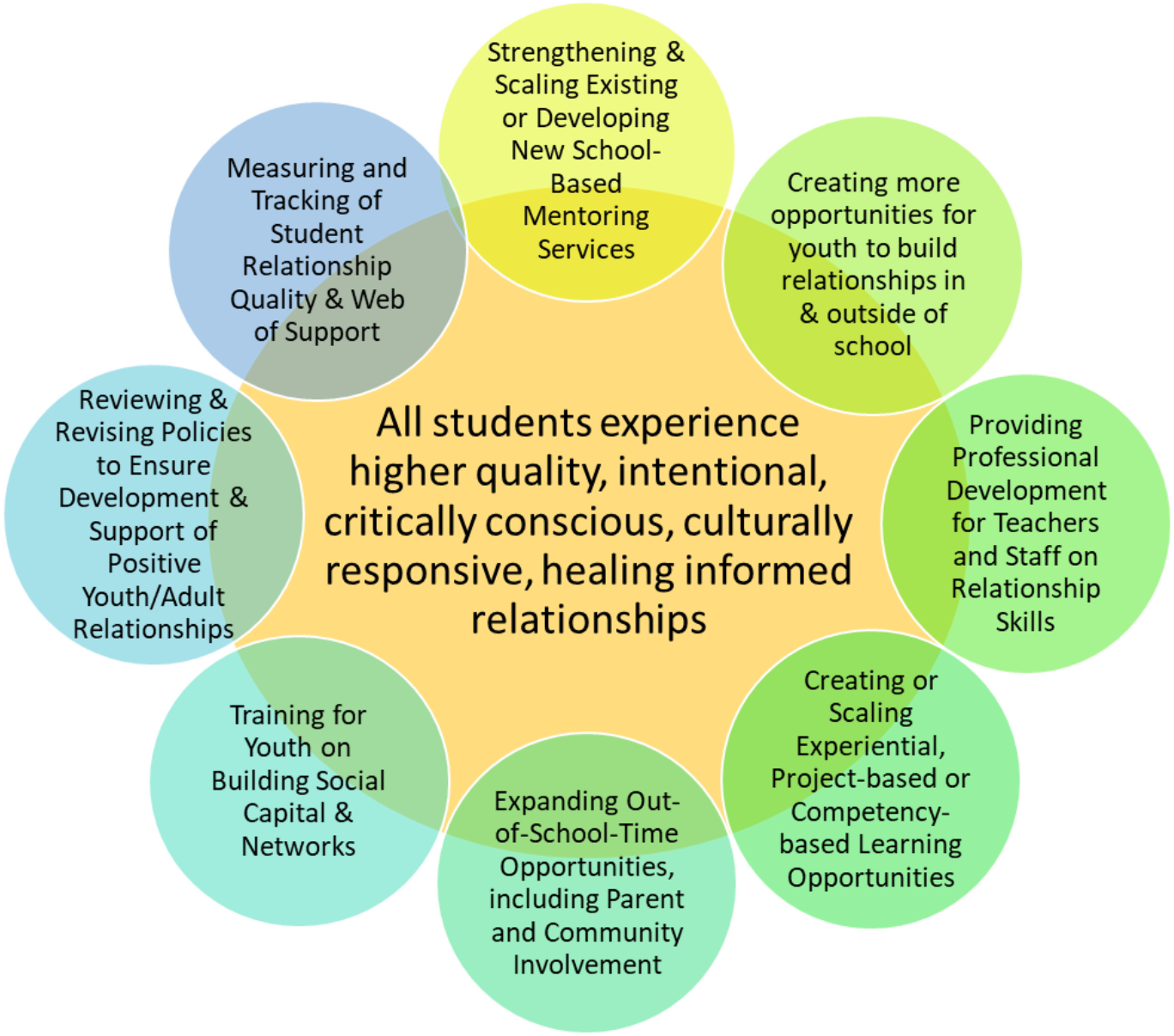
RELATIONSHIP-CENTERED SCHOOLS

- Data Driven
- Relationship-Rich
- Exposure to People, Places, and Environments
- Experiential Learning
- Youth Centered

SUGGESTED RELATIONSHIP-CENTERED COMPONENTS

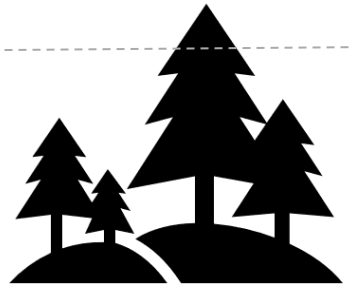


MENTORING MINDSET

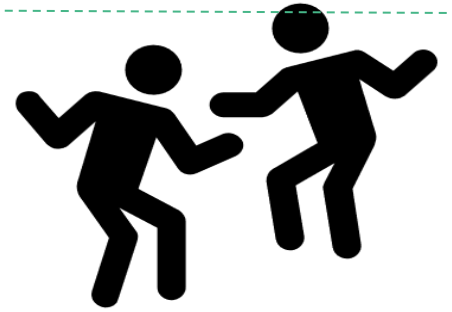
Mentoring Mindset

Intentional: I See You

Developmental: I'm Here to Help



Supportive: I Got You



Communal: We're In This Together

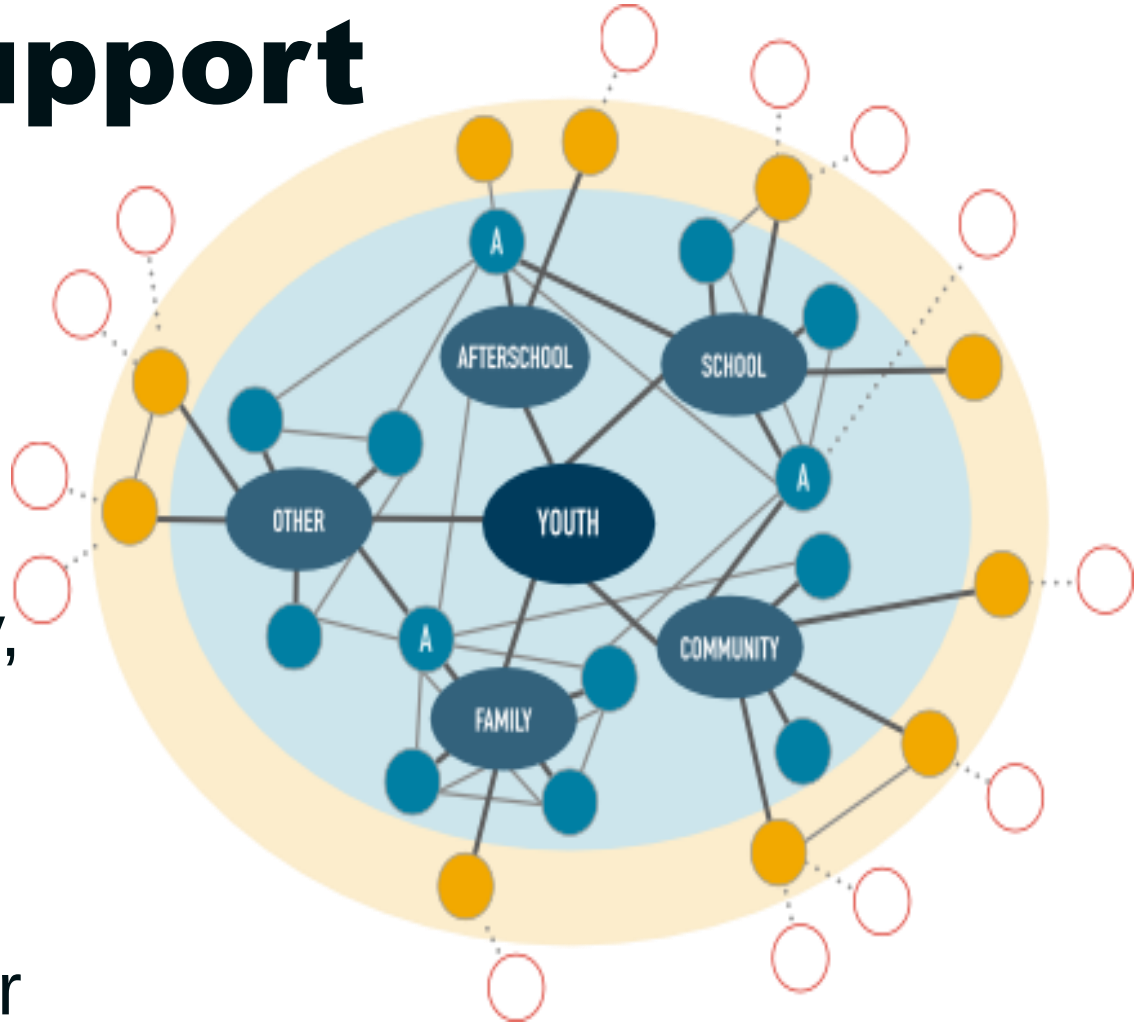
Activity: Webs of Support

Instructions:

1. On your piece of paper, draw a circle and write your name.

2. Think about the communities you are part of & label those – work, family, clubs, spiritual, for example

3. Within those communities, begin to identify those people who you consider your support group.



CERES Institute, Boston University (via America's Promise Alliance)

Resources + Future Planning

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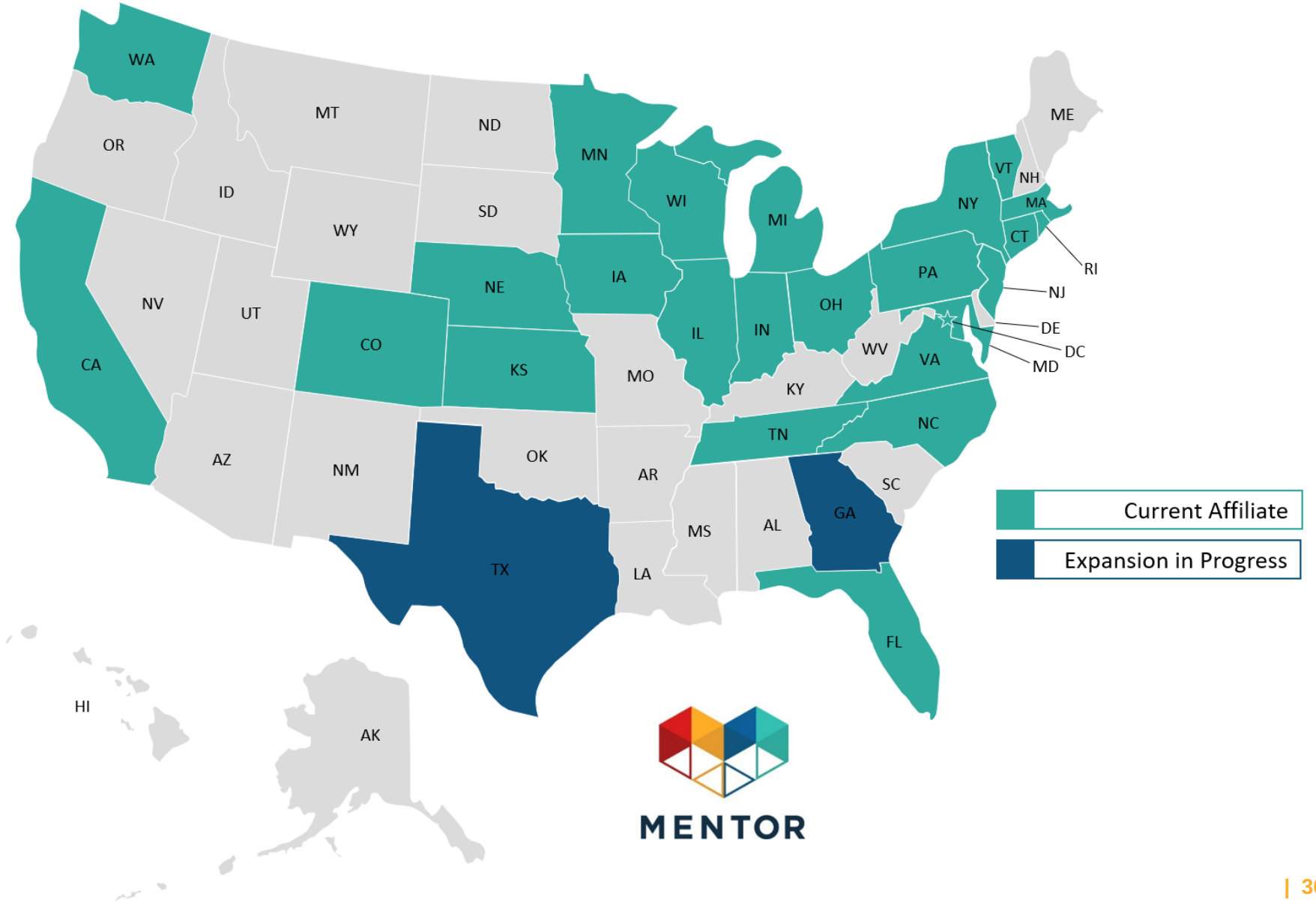
Connect with MENTOR National or Affiliate



Start, expand, or improve a program through the OJJDP National Mentoring Resource Center (NMRC)

- Visit www.nationalmentoringresourcecenter.org
- Funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the NMRC disseminates information about “What Works” in mentoring through evidence reviews on the effectiveness of program models and specific programs, practices, and services for specific populations of mentees
- Disseminates high-quality program implementation resources, including tools, program curricula, and training materials
- Provides FREE technical assistance to youth mentoring programs to help them more deeply incorporate evidence-based practice into their work.
- Sign up for the monthly e-newsletter here

Or find a partner using the Mentoring Connector

Search for a Local Mentoring Program

Search the Mentoring Connector database by entering your zip code to find a variety of programs in your community.

The Mentoring Connector is a volunteer recruitment tool for programs. If you are searching to find a mentor, we encourage you to use these results to contact the program outside of this system.

By searching the database, you are sharing your information with MENTOR, its Affiliates, and any program you choose to contact through the Mentoring Connector. Your email address will not be sold, shared with third parties or used for any purposes other than to keep you updated on news and opportunities related to mentoring.

Zip Code

Distance

5 Miles 10 Miles 15 Miles 25 Miles

Youth Population Served

All

Age of Youth Served

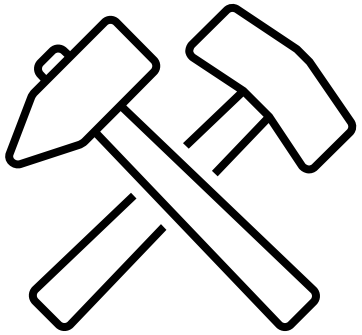
All

Type of Mentoring

All

Search

Some tools to share



Relationship-centered Schools:
https://www.mentoring.org/campaigns/education/

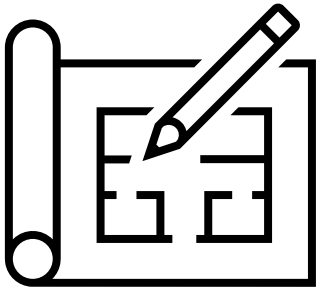
Relationship Mapping: https://mcc.gse.harvard.edu/resources-for-educators

Webs of Support Framework:

https://www.americaspromise.org/resource/defining-webs-support-new-framework-advance-understanding-relationships-and-youth

Christensen Institute Who You Know Playbook:
https://whoyouknow.org/playbook/

Tools in Development



Tools:

- Landscape Analysis Tools: Inventory, Data, & Reflection Worksheets
- School Readiness Assessment Worksheet
- Relationship Mapping Tools

Currently Piloting Tools with:

- Baltimore, MD (Baltimore City Schools)
- Montgomery County, MD (MCPS)
- Fresno, CA (FUSD)
- Sacramento County, CA (SCOE)
- Newark, NJ (Newark Board of Education)

Rita Pierson: Every Kid Needs a Champion (TED Talk)

Stay in touch!

Sadiq Ali & Pamela Civins

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Thank You

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